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"BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND"

These Words Apply to Pastor Russell and Others, He Says.

Ministers Have Deceived the People Respecting the Bible Teachings—But They Were Themselves Deceived, Hence Not Willfully Guilty—The Duty of the Hour is to Undress the Public and to Remove the Slander From God's Character—Courage Necessary—Otherwise Many Will Fall Into the Ditch of Unbelief—The Educated Are There Already.



London, August 10.—Pastor Russell addressed the London Tabernacle congregation twice today. We report his discourse from the text, "If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."—Matthew 18:14.

The Pastor said: How stupidly blind we have all been respecting our Father's words! We have believed human traditions, and neglected the Scriptures, until the Church as a whole has become thoroughly puzzled respecting everything religious. All are out of the way of Truth, lost in the fog of human superstition and error, misled, as St. Paul foretold, by "doctrines of demons."—1 Timothy 4:1.

The duty of the hour is to get back into harmony with God, and to obtain true light upon His Word. As the Master predicted, the whole world has been intoxicated with the false doctrines which Satan gradually introduced during the Dark Ages.—Rev. 17:2.

Like drunken people, said the Pastor, we confused good and bad. In one breath, we told of the Love of God. In another, we painted this God of Love as deliberately arranging, before creating humanity, that billions should be born in sin, misshapen in iniquity; and that after a few short years full of trouble the vast majority should be turned over to fire-proof demons, to be tortured throughout eternity.

Satan's Great Success.

Pastor Russell reminded his hearers that the Master styled Satan the father of lies. Satan's first great lie misled and murdered our first parents by inducing Mother Eve to disbelieve God's words, "In the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." Satan contradicted the Almighty, saying, "Ye shall not surely die"—cannot die, ye are immortal.

Satan has impressed this falsehood upon the whole world. While in fulfillment of God's word people die, Satan has brought in the deceptive theory that they have merely gone elsewhere to live.

Thus, contrary to all Scripture, mankind have come to believe that at death the saintly go to Heaven, and all others go either to Hell or Purgatory. The plain, common-sense statement of the Bible is ignored—that all, good and bad, old and young, go to Sheol, Hades, the tomb. Thus the Bible teaching that Jesus' redemptive work assures all a resurrection from the dead is made void by Satan's lie.

Immortality in Christ.

The Pastor then demonstrated conclusively from Scripture that immortality is a hope, not a possession. Man was not created immortal; but the life given him was conditional upon his obedience to his Creator's commands. This is indicated by God's threat that disobedience would bring death—cessation of life. St. Paul's argument is that positive assurance of everlasting life was not given until Christ "brought immortality and life to light through the Gospel."—2 Timothy 1:10.

Immortality is a quality of life thus far possessed by Jehovah God and by His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The hope of the Church is to attain the promised "glory, honor and immortality" in the First Resurrection. The hope for the non-elect world is that of everlasting life, the same as that given to the angels—to all of mankind who will, during the Millennial Age, come into harmony with the Messianic Kingdom. Those who, after fullest opportunity for recovery from sin and death conditions, will not render obedience to the Divine arrangement, will be everlastingly destroyed.

This Bible presentation of the matter—that God's proposition is life or death—we are beginning to see is most reasonable, most logical, said Pastor Russell. Furthermore, His proposition is that when His Plan shall have been completed, none shall have life who will not have it in perfection. He desires not mental, moral and physical degenerates in His Kingdom.

As a result of the permission of sin and death, God's Wisdom, Justice, Love and Power will be more clearly seen by both angels and men. Until we realized the Absolute Justice of God in allowing our race to go down into death and in sending His Son to die for us, giving the redemption-price of Adam's sin, we could not see the depths of Divine Wisdom and Love.

The resurrection will be a stupendous expression of Divine Power. Resurrection involves no absurdities, as Scripturally seen. The Bible proposes for both Church and world a resurrection of the soul, the being. But to each class, as St. Paul declares, "God gives a body as it hath pleased Him."

FLAGS IN WASHINGTON

BANNERS OF ALL NATIONS TO BE SEEN THERE.

At Legations of Civilized Nations, and Perhaps Some Others—Distinguished Persons Always Coming and Going.

The people of Washington probably are better acquainted with the flags of nations than a dweller in any other American city. The legations of all civilized nations are here, and then perhaps some others. Distinguished persons or personages are always coming and going in the capital of the United States and courtesy calls for the display of many different flags. The leading hotels keep flags of all nations and they make frequent display of flags representative of nations that were, before their absorption or extinction.

And this brings to mind that in the flags of all nations which may be seen in Washington red is the most usual color. You will see it in nineteen national standards. You will see blue in the emblems of the United States, Russia, France, Great Britain, Holland, Ecuador, Sweden, Chile, Portugal, Venezuela and Cuba. Yellow appears in the flags of Austria, Spain, Belgium, Brazil, Persia, Sweden, Egypt, China and Venezuela. The yellowest flag is, of course, the United States quarantine flag. Black is to be seen in the flags of Germany, Belgium and China. The ensign of Samoa has or had black in it. Green appears in the flags of Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico, Italy and Persia. The merchant flag of Bulgaria has green in it and so, too, has the merchant flag of Austria-Hungary.

The flags that are all red are the ensigns of Morocco and of Zanzibar and the merchant flag of Tunisia. There is a larger ratio of red in the imperial flag of Japan, the ensign of Switzerland, the ensign of Turkey and the merchant flag of Great Britain than in the flags of other important nations. The flag with the largest ratio of white is that of Ecuador.

It is appropriate in this connection to recall that the flag of the Confederate American colonies was a field of red with a red cross of St. George on a white ground in the upper staff corner, the Bunker Hill American flag was a blue field with a red cross of St. George on a white ground in the upper staff corner, the Rattlesnake flag was a yellow field with a coiled snake in black in the center, and the American Appeal to Reason flag was a white field with a green pine tree in the middle.



STANLEY'S WAY TO CONGRESS

Traveled on Steamboat as Long as Funds Lasted and Then Got Off.

Representative A. O. Stanley of Kentucky was once a school teacher in the mountains of his native state. The employment was not entirely satisfactory to the young man and accordingly one day he decided to go out and see the world.

Boarding a steamboat, he went direct to the captain and handed him what funds he had in his possession. He told the captain to let him stay aboard until his money was used up and then put him off.

Reaching the town of Henderson, the captain went up to young Stanley and announced that this was his getting off place.

"Your money's all gone," he said.

"All right, captain," replied the youthful Kentuckian with spirit. "I'll get my luggage and go ashore. I am going to get ready to go to congress from here."

Ten years later Stanley presented his credentials to the speaker of the house of representatives, as a member of congress from Henderson, Ky.

Housework Drudgery!

Housework is drudgery for the weak woman. She brushes, dusts and scrubs, or is on her feet all day attending to the many details of the household, her back aching, her temples throbbing, nerves quivering under the stress of pain, possibly dizzy feelings. Sometimes rest in bed is not refreshing, because the poor tired nerves do not permit of refreshing sleep. The real need of weak, nervous women is satisfied by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and as Mrs. Briggs and others testify:

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STOMACH TROUBLE FOR FIVE YEARS

Majority of Friends Thought Mr. Hughes Would Die, But One Helped Him to Recovery.

Pomeroyton, Ky.—In interesting advices from this place, Mr. A. J. Hughes writes as follows: "I was down with stomach trouble for five (5) years, and would have sick headache so bad, at times, that I thought surely I would die. I tried different treatments, but they did not seem to do me any good. I got so bad, I could not eat or sleep, and all my friends, except one, thought I would die. He advised me to try Thedford's Black-Draught, and quit taking other medicines. I decided to take his advice, although I did not have any confidence in it. I have now been taking Black-Draught for three months, and it has cured me—haven't had those awful sick headaches since I began using it. I am so thankful for what Black-Draught has done for me." Thedford's Black-Draught has been found a very valuable medicine for derangements of the stomach and liver. It is composed of pure, vegetable herbs, contains no dangerous ingredients, and acts gently, yet surely. It can be freely used by young and old, and should be kept in every family chest. Get a package today. Only a quarter.

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